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PRESS RELEASE

**Finmeccanica at Defendory 2008: co-operation with Greece in the aerospace and defence sector to develop significant technology partnerships**

From 7 to 11 October the Defendory 2008 defence exhibition will take place in Athens. Finmeccanica will be there, exhibiting through the companies AgustaWestland, Alenia Aermacchi, Alenia Aeronautica, Orizzonte Sistemi Navali, OTO Melara, SELEX Communications and SELEX Sistemi Integrati.

Further major opportunities for co-operation between the industries of Italy and Greece could also lie in the sector of maritime patrol and undersea surveillance aircraft. Alenia Aeronautica is proposing to supply the Greek Navy with an anti-submarine warfare (ASW) version of its ATR72 twin engine aircraft, as part of the programme to renew the fleet of maritime patrol aircraft in service in Greece.

In addition, the Greek Air Force is considering buying a number of next-generation Search and Rescue (SAR) helicopters. Finmeccanica's product in this area is AgustaWestland's AW139, a new benchmark for the medium twin engine helicopter market, which redefines the concept of flexibility and versatility, boasting unparalleled performance and operating capabilities. AgustaWestland has a solid foothold on the Greek market, having already supplied helicopters to the Navy, the Air Force and the Health Ministry.

Finmeccanica companies have many other opportunities to work with Greek industry in the sector of systems and defence electronics, for example in the area of VTMS coastal surveillance systems and air defence radar, produced by SELEX Sistemi Integrati, as well as in the TETRA secure communications system designed and developed by SELEX Communications. Finmeccanica also has an interest in major naval programmes, such as the next-generation Frigates for the Greek Navy.

Over the years, Italy and Greece have built a solid industrial partnership that covers sectors including defence and security, and have worked together on many successful programmes in the fields of helicopters, tactical transport aircraft, air traffic control and air defence radar, communication systems, and naval systems and guns.

In 2005 Finmeccanica expressed its interest in working with the Greek aerospace industry when it signed a letter of intent with Hellenic Aerospace Industry (HAI) for the development of joint programmes. Alenia Aeronautica has reached a series of agreements with HAI for the manufacture in Greece of components for the C-27J, B787 and C-130J aircraft, while Alenia Aermacchi has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with HAI to define the terms of their industrial partnership for the development of the M-346 next-generation trainer aircraft.

Finmeccanica is the biggest high-tech company in Italy and leader in Research and Development, controlling most of the country's aerospace sector and national defence. The Group has a strong track record and a solid market position in the rail transport sector via its subsidiaries AnsaldoBreda (which provides trains for the Athens transport system) and Ansaldo STS. It also produces power generation systems via Ansaldo Energia (which has built power stations at Agios Dimitrios, Chania and Komotini), and provides IT and automation services via Eltag Datamat, which operates in the field of logistics and military security.